

CABINS MYTHICAL

DRAWER 11

BIRTHPLACE CABIN

70 1000 021 021-02



Kentucky

Birthplace Cabin

Myths

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

The Early Home of Abraham Lincoln, Elizabethtown, Ky.



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POST CARD



The only cards I know
anything about ^{is} ~~are~~ the
one I enclose gotten
out by the Publication of
Elkhart from my
cousin, and the
early ones are that
I first got out and
then sold to Mr. Carpenter
(Miss) Florence Hall
I could not find out anything about it.

Fisk, Wisconsin.

May 20, 1886.

Miss Florence Hall,

1251 - 4th Street,

Louisville, Ky.

Dear madam:

I understand that
your brother-in-law, Mr. G. A.
Carpenter, got out a National
Post Card, "The Early Home of
Abraham Lincoln in Elizabethtown,
Ky." Can you furnish me a
sample copy of said post card?

Also, do you happen to be able
to tell me where I may obtain a
copy of the following:
"The birthplace of Abraham

Abraham Lincoln's Homes

*An Interesting Album on Life of the Illustrious Emancipator
Prepared by Neighbor August Stukenberg, Well-
Known Attorney of Terre Haute, Indiana.*

SOMETHING unique in the way of albums is the one prepared by Neighbor August Stukenberg of Terre Haute, Indiana, on the life of Abraham Lincoln, from his birth on February 12, 1809, until his untimely death in April, 1865.

The first picture shows the log cabin where Lincoln was born near Hodgenville, Kentucky. This cabin is now enclosed in a massive stone building. The next home of Lincoln was in what is now known as Lincoln City, Indiana, the cabin there having been built in 1816. A new cabin was built nearby a year or so following, but nothing remains of either of them. A monument marks the place where the cabins stood. A few miles southeast of there Lincoln operated a ferry boat in 1826, this being near what is now known as Troy, Indiana. A large sign near the river there bears the inscription, "Anderson Creek—Abraham Lincoln Operated Ferry Boat Here in 1826." Near Lincoln City is Little Pigeon creek and a spot there is still known as "Abe Lincoln's Swimm'n' Hole."

The Lincoln family left Indiana about 1831, moving to Macon county, Illinois, about ten miles from Decatur. Abe assisted his father in building the log cabin, the spot having been marked in 1904 by the Decatur Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. A huge boulder, with a tablet thereon is inscribed, "This Tablet Marks the Site of the First Home of Abraham Lincoln, 1831. During the time of his residence there Abe got to working and earning money for himself and drifted in and around New Salem, now known as New Old Salem.

From Macon county the family shortly moved to Coles county, and settled at a spot about one mile east of Farmington, where the father, Thomas Lincoln, died January 15, 1851. He was buried in the Shiloh cemetery. A monument there has the following inscription: "Lincoln—Thomas and Sarah Bush Lincoln, 1778-1851—1788-1869.

Father and Stepmother of Our Martyred President. Their Humble, but Worthy Home, Gave to the World Abraham Lincoln."

After his election to the presidency Abraham Lincoln visited his stepmother at Farmington. An excellent picture of this house appearing in the album shows that the house is in need of repair. Several pictures taken in and near New Salem where Lincoln worked for a period of about seven years are shown and are most interesting. The village has become almost extinct, but persons of prominence are endeavoring to have the state bring it back to a semblance of what it was in Lincoln's time. The Berry and Lincoln store building and the Rutledge Tavern and Mill will be main features when the work of rehabilitation is completed. Lincoln was first elected to the legislature from New

until 1861 when he moved to the White House upon being elected to the presidency.

The Springfield residence has been preserved and is in the care of a custodian who lives in the house. The front rooms are open to the public. A picture of this house also appears in the album.

The Ford theater at Washington where Lincoln was shot is shown, and the Peterson home where he died the following day also has a place in the album. These buildings appear to be about the same as they were at the time of the assassination in 1865.

Neighbor Stukenberg has spent considerable time and effort in getting all these pictures, as the collection in an album is of considerable value to the many people who like to read and study the life of the immortal Lincoln.

DESIGNS FOR MONUMENT.

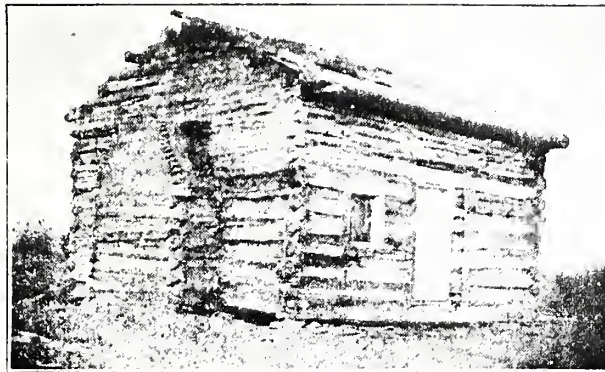
Contest for Proposed Statue at Sanatorium Closes August 1.

Designs and suggestions for the monument at the Modern Woodmen sanatorium continue coming in and a time limit has been determined upon for the receipt for further suggestions, this being August 1.

As announced in the November, 1928, issue the proposed monument is the wish of Mrs. E. E. Murphy, Leavenworth, Kansas, widow of the late Director Murphy, who offers \$100 for the best design for a monument illustrative of the fight on tuberculosis as waged by Modern Woodmen of America. The monument is to be placed on an elevation at a point to the left of the entrance to the sanatorium grounds where it will be seen by the thousands of people who pass that way each year.

This Society has done much in combating tuberculosis in the twenty years which it has operated the sanatorium, thereby getting deserved recognition from the world in general for its efforts in stamping out the dread malady. It is therefore most fitting that a suitable monument depicting the fight against tuberculosis be placed where it will be seen by the passers-by.

It is not necessary for an artist or sculptor to be a member of the Society when submitting designs or suggestions. These should be mailed to Chas. F. Huthmaker, Editor of THE MODERN WOODMAN, Rock Island, Illinois.



HOUSE IN WHICH ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS BORN

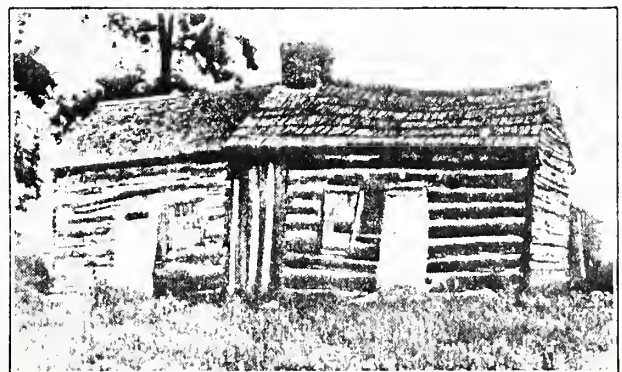
Salem in 1834 when the state capital was at Vandalia, this building now being the county court house. It is said that Lincoln jumped out of the second story of this building merely to defeat a quorum which surely would have voted to continue Vandalia as the state capital, something which Lincoln was against. Thus he was instrumental in having the capital changed to Springfield. As soon as the new capital was established Lincoln moved from New Salem to Springfield where he resided

thereby getting deserved recognition from the world in general for its efforts in stamping out the dread malady. It is therefore most fitting that a suitable monument depicting the fight against tuberculosis be placed where it will be seen by the passers-by.

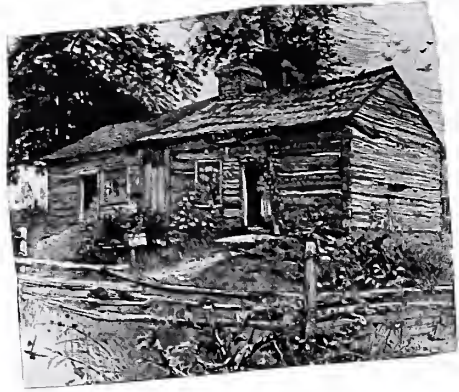
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FIRST HOME OF LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS (NEAR DECATUR)



SECOND HOME OF LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS (NEAR FARMINGTON)



Not the Birthplace!

And yet as late as Sunday
Feb. 11, 1934 in the leading article
of N.Y. Times Magazine, it appears so
to have been an article by me, (et alia)
who surely knows better.

THE LINCOLN CABIN HOMES

LEADER WEEKLY EAGLE

From Lincoln Lore.

There has been considerable interest shown of late in the history of the Lincoln cabin, which John Hanks and Abraham Lincoln are said to have built for Thomas Lincoln, upon his removal to Illinois. The discoveries, associated with this cabin, seem to invite a very brief tabulation of the many homes which Thomas Lincoln occupied, from the time of his birth, in 1776 (until his death in 1851.

Linville Creek, Virginia

Thomas Lincoln's father, on Aug. 7, 1773, purchased two hundred and ten acres of land on Linville Creek, in Rockingham county, Virginia, where he had been living since his marriage in 1770. It was in a cabin on that tract of land that Thomas Lincoln was born, in the year 1776. He lived there until 1782, when his parents migrated to Kentucky.

Green River, Kentucky

There is a bare possibility that the Lincolns lived on a tract of land situated in Lincoln county, now Casey county, when they first arrived in the Kentucky country, late in the year 1782. It is more likely, however, that they resided in Crow's Station, near where Danville, Boyle county, now is, if they contemplated working the Green River lands. The ferocity of the Indians would not allow a scattered population at this time. Crow's Station was the headquarters of the pioneer, Lincoln, earlier in the year when he was on his prospecting trip in Kentucky.

Long Run, Kentucky

The first residence of the Lincoln's in Kentucky, of which we have positive evidence, is on Long Run, in Jefferson county. Here the family also found it necessary to live in the fort at Hughes Station when the Indians were troublesome; but likely they occupied the cabin on their 400-acre tract during part of the

time. In the year 1786, when Thomas Lincoln was but ten years of age, his father was massacred by the Indians at this place.

Beech Fork, Kentucky

The exact site to which the Widow Lincoln moved her family, after the massacre of her husband, has not as yet been determined, although the general location is made known by a road order which speaks of her cabin on Beech Fork. Here she reared her family and kept her home together until all the children with the exception of Thomas, were married. Three weddings in the Lincoln home in the year 1801 were indirectly responsible for the removal of the family to Hardin county.

Marrowbone Creek, Kentucky.

On Nov. 28, 1801, Thomas Lincoln purchased a tract of land in Cumberland county, Ky. He undoubtedly put up a temporary structure to show possession and "batched" there long enough to claim the land grant. There is evidence that his residence here was for short periods, as he was often found in Hardin county at various intervals.

Mill Creek, Ky.

The next purchase of Thomas Lincoln's was made to provide his mother with a home. In the fall of 1803 he paid 118 pounds, cash, for a farm on Mill Creek, about 12 miles northwest of Elizabethtown, in Hardin co. He divided his time between this and his Marrowbone Creek farm. His sister and her husband lived with his mother.

Middle Creek, Ky.

After Thomas Lincoln married Nancy Hanks, in the Berry cabin, on Beech Fork, he brought his bride to Elizabethtown, situated on Middle Creek in Hardin county, where he had purchased a lot and built a cabin. Here they lived for two years and here their first child was born. The identical location of the cabin is not known, and the picture often exhibited as their Elizabethtown cabin home is spurious.

South Fork of Nolin, Ky.

Thomas Lincoln moved from Elizabethtown to his new purchase on the South Fork of Nolin late in the year 1808. This farm was the largest tract

of land he had owned and he paid \$200 cash for it. It was here on Feb. 12, 1809, that Abraham Lincoln was born. The cabin was situated 3 miles south of where Hodgenville, LaRue county, now is, and in what was then Hardin county.

Knob Creek, Ky.

About two years after Abraham Lincoln was born his father moved the family to a cabin on Knob Creek and secured possession of a tract of land there. No photograph of this cabin seems to be available. Here Abraham lived from the time he was 2 years of age until he was 7. This cabin site was also in what was then Hardin county but which later became LaRue county. It was the last Kentucky residence of the Lincolns.

Little Pigeon Creek, Indiana

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas in the year 1816, Thomas Lincoln moved his family to what is now Spencer county, Indiana, and settled on the Southwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 4, South of Range 5 West. Tradition speaks of three different shelters which were erected on this site. The cabin which stood there at the time of the family's removal, like other Lincoln cabins, mysteriously disappeared. This was the home of Abraham Lincoln from the time he was seven until he became of age.

Sangamon River, Illinois

On March 14, 1830, the Lincoln caravan went into camp at Decatur, Macon county, Illinois. Ten miles southwest of this town, near the Sangamon river, the men of the party, with the assistance of John Hanks, erected a cabin. This is the cabin which has been given so much prominence in recent press dispatches, and which has furnished information for at least two interesting brochures about its being exhibited on Boston Common. Pieces of the cabin

were sold for souvenirs. What was left of it was lost at sea while enroute for England, so tradition states.

Buck Grove, Illinois

Sickness, the rigors of a cold winter, and possibly Abraham's leaving home, were responsible for the Lincolns starting back towards Indiana after a year's residence on the Sangamon. They were persuaded to settle in Buck Grove close to some of Mrs. Lincoln's relatives where a cabin was erected in Section 5, Township 11, Range 8. Lincoln remained here on this first Coles county site for three years.

Walker's Place, Illinois

There seems to be some evidence that Lincoln moved from section five to section ten at the conclusion of his Buck Grove residence, and purchased forty acres of land on which he built a cabin. This home was about three quarters of a mile south of where the town of Berna, Coles county, now stands.

Plummer's Place, Illinois

On November 25, 1834, Thomas Lincoln purchased eighty acres of land, in the same township where he was then residing, securing a half of the quarter section number sixteen. Here a cabin was erected and a residence established until the sale of the property on Dec. 27, 1837. This was probably the third cabin Thomas Lincoln had erected in Coles county.

Goose Nest Prairie, Illinois

By the spring of 1838, Thomas Lincoln had become established in the cabin on the new purchase at Goose Nest Prairie, also in Coles county. Here he lived until the day of his death, in 1851. The place where he died finally came into possession of the National War Museum company but like some of the former homes of the pioneer its disappearance is clothed in obscurity.

Chapter Twenty-eight

The Valley Creek Home

Bibliographical Errata

Concerning

The Elizabethtown Cabin

He (Thomas Lincoln) had a trade and owned a farm which he had bought in 1803 in Buffalo and also land in Elizabethtown.

Hitchcock, page 57.

Lincoln took Nancy to live in a shed on one of the alleys in Elizabethtown, it was a very sorry building and very scarce of furniture.

Lamon page, 12.

Until within a few years the old house at Elizabethtown, where Thomas Lincoln first took his bride, Nancy Hanks, stood as Thomas himself had built it, on what was then known as Mill Creek. It was burned down accidentally a few years ago, but the well hard by the house is still there.

Hitchcock, page 83

It (Elizabethtown Cabin) stands yet or did stand in 1866 to witness for itself the wretched poverty of its early inhabitants. It is about fourteen feet square and has been about three times removed.

Lamon, page, 13

(Inscription under frontispice) The early home of Abraham Lincoln as it now stands in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, His father built this cabin and moved into it when Abraham was an infant and resided there until he was seven years old when he removed to Indiana.

Thayer, frontispice.

It is of a piece with those fictions which describe the Linkorn tumble down shanty, fourteen feet square, in an Elizabethtown alley, where the inmates live in squalid poverty, as a frugal Christian Home.

Coleman page. 8.

He (Thomas Lincoln) took her (Nancy Hanks) as a bride to the humble cabin he had prepared for her, already alluded to as the birthplace of the President, and within the first few years of her married life, she bore him three children. Holland page, 32.

Thomas Lincoln bought 238 acres of land in Hardin County in 1803 and sold in 1814. He possibly lived here until 1809 and went with Enlow, with Kentucky mules and horses, and met Nancy, whom he brought back with him. He never paid for this place and may have lived in Tennessee at Isaac Lincoln's when employed by Enlow to go to South Carolina. He moved on five or six miles from this place and then in 1816 left for Indiana.

Knotts Barton. (P) page 126.

He (Thomas Lincoln) then removed (from Elizabethtown), probably in May or early June 1806, to that part of Hardin County which is now Larue, living for the first few months on the farm of George Brownfield.

Barton (P) page 250.

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